

**REMARKS**

Claims 1–9 and 14–27 are pending in the present application.

Claims 9, 22 and 23 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1–8, 14–21 and 24–27 are rejected.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

**35 U.S.C. § 102 (Anticipation)**

Claims 1–8, 14–21 and 24–27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,955,781 to *Joshi et al.* This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. MPEP § 2131 at p. 2100-73 (8<sup>th</sup> ed. rev. 2 May 2004).

Independent claims 1, 14 and 24 each recite one or more capacitive electrodes proximate to a sensing surface and forming a capacitor with an object placed on the sensing surface. Such a feature is not found in the cited reference. Local interconnect 242 in *Joshi et al* is not a capacitive electrode, is not situation proximate to a sensing surface, and does not form a capacitor with an object on any proximate surface.

Therefore, the rejection of claims 1–8, 14–21 and 24–27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 has been overcome.

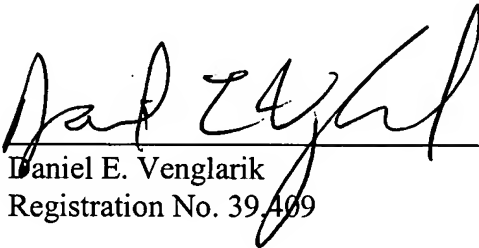
If any issues arise, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of this Application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *dvenglarik@davismunck.com*.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

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